

Vol. 29—No. 19

LIST 4 MAIN LINE COMMUNITIES FOR NEW POST OFFICES AS PART OF POST-WAR BUILDING PROGRAM

Preliminary Studies Show Narberth, Merion, Wynnewood and Rosemont Have Outgrown Facilities; Federal Bureau Will Ask Congress For Money to Acquire Sites; Eleven Others Listed in County

Four Main Line communities are listed for new post-office buildings when the war ends. They are Narberth, Merion, Wynnewood and Rosemont. Preliminary studies have been made by the Public Buildings Administration and all of these postoffices are operating beyond their capacity with limited facilities.

Officials of the Public Buildings Administration are asking that legislation be passed granting them the necessary money to purchase land. Purchase of the land is necessary because architects can make plans for the new buildings which are dependent on the size and shape of the plot of ground.

According to the amount of annual receipts Merion, Wynnewood and Rosemont are second class post offices and Narberth a first class office.

Under the U. S. Post Office Department's post-war building program 15 Montgomery County communities are listed for new buildings, including those on the Main Line.

The need for advance planning for such buildings is necessary, officials contend, if the country is to avoid a WPA program. Acquisition of land early also is necessary to give officials time to work out any legal entanglements. Because of the war and shortage of materials no new post office buildings have been built since 1940.

Narberth paved the way for a new post office when it became a first class office on July 1. Although it has a separate building it has exceeded its facilities by acquiring new delivery territory and adding to its volume of business. According to the report of Joseph L. Kelley, Narberth postmaster, receipts went above \$40,000 in 1943. He reported receipts of \$43,000, automatically making it first class.

The Merion Post Office, on Civic Circle, Merion, is along side the ticket office of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and is leased annually from the railroad. There are six regular carriers covering the delivery routes. Comment of the postmaster, Miss Katherine Shreck, was that they were pretty crowded and of course they could use a new building.

The Wynnewood Post Office at 29 E. Wynnewood Ave., moved to its present location from 35 E. Wynnewood Ave. in March, 1941. The post office has six carriers and recently took over from the Upper Darby post office Overbrook Hills-in-Merion.

The postmaster, Mrs. Emma R. Eakins, said that her office could use more floor space and greater facilities. She pointed out that Haverford only slightly more business annually and over territory has a separate post office building and adequate facilities.

E. B. Fairman Dies In Bala-Cynwyd

Retired Bell Telephone Executive To Be Buried in Chicago

E. Bruce Fairman, assistant to the vice president in charge of personnel relations of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania, until he retired in February of this year, died Monday at his home in Bala-Cynwyd, Pa. He was 65.

Mr. Fairman was associated with the telephone industry for more than 44 years. A graduate of the University of Nebraska, he started with the old Chicago Telephone Company on December 1, 1899.

Later, he worked for the Bell Telephone Company of Missouri, the New York Telephone Company and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. In 1920 he came to Philadelphia as traffic results engineer. He was made director of education in 1926 and in 1930 became assistant to the vice president.

Mr. Fairman was a member of the Bala-Cynwyd Neighborhood Club and the Overbrook Golf Club. Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Alice Fairman, and a daughter, Jeanne R. Fairman.

Funeral services and interment will be at Rose Hill Cemetery in Chicago.

With only two weeks of the regular season remaining, the Main Line Baseball League picture is exceptionally clear, except for one position.

Narberth's defending champions are back in undisputed possession of first place. Manoa trails by a game in second place and Bartram is assured no worse than a tie for third place. Thus, all three are definitely in the playoffs.

Brookline, coming strong down the stretch just as it did last season when it made a spectacular climb out of the cellar to reach the playoffs, is now tied with Collegeville for fourth place.

Brookline and Collegeville cash this Sunday at Collegeville to decide the position, but which of the two make the playoffs probably will be decided until the final games, which send the Hares against Manoa and Collegeville against Ardmore. The way it looks now, the two will probably break even in their remaining games

Mrs. Murray Dies At Daughter's Home

Funeral services for Mrs. Christine Jordan Murray, of 149 Merion Ave., Narberth, were held Wednesday afternoon at Oliver H. Bair's 1820 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.

Mrs. Murray, who was 79, died Saturday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. William Robinson, at West Cliford, Pa.

She also survived by two sons, Mr. Edwin R. Kirk, of Narberth, and Mrs. Daniel R. Derrickson, of Bala. Interment was in Fernwood Cemetery.

Lorie Martin Wins Four First Places

Lorie Martin of Cynwyd won four first places to take honors in the Colonial Village Swimming Club's weekly meet. Miss Martin led the way across the finish line in the 25-yard free style race for senior girls, girls open class, back stroke 25 yards, 50-yard free style and girls' 100-yard free style races. Her time of 44.8 seconds in the 50-yard free style lowered the record of 48 seconds held by Dana Lamb of Wayne.

At Beamish of Wynnewood lowered his own record mark of 38.7 seconds in the 25-yard free style race for Junior boys to 38.1 seconds. Dudley Foster of Stratford moved into second place behind Art Beamish in the race for the President's Cup denoting top performance in the contests held during the Summer. Beamish has 58 points, Foster has 45, while Dana Lamb of Wayne dropped to third place with 42 points.

Diving, Senior girls: Ann Becker, Narberth, first; Josephine Becker, Narberth, second; Florence Jennings, Narberth, third. Junior girls: Arthur Logan, Norristown, first; Dudley Foster, Stratford, second; Win Scott, Narberth, third.

Senior boys, 25 yds., free style: Lorie Martin, Cynwyd, first; Ann Becker, Narberth, second; Katherine Jennings, Narberth, third. Time—17.7 seconds.

Senior boys, 25 yds., free style: Dick Loeper, King of Prussia, first; Dudley Foster, Stratford, second; Win Scott, Narberth, third. Time—15 seconds.

Girls, 25 yd. back stroke: Lorie Martin, Cynwyd, first. Continued on Page Three

HERE AND THERE

Dr. Howard Wayne Smith, former pastor of the Ardmore Baptist Church, will hold services at the Narberth Baptist Church during the month of August.

Mr. and Mrs. George Torchiana are the proud parents of a daughter, born July 31 at Bryn Mawr Hospital. Mr. Torchiana is a chemist, Mrs. McCabe, of Haverford.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Toole, of Woodside Ave., Narberth, have a son, born July 31. Mr. Toole is the former Ilma Scott.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Harwood Loos, of 15 Chestnut Ave., Narberth, have a son, Robert Dothard Loos, born July 25 at the Josephine Hospital. Mrs. Loos was Flora Hultgren.

Narberth is now in first place in the Main Line Baseball League, having won from Manoa last Sunday, 5-2. Narberth will play Ardmore next Sunday, August 6th, at 3.15, at the Narberth field.

New novels released this past week—Island of Desire, by Robert Dean Frisbie. A number of years ago Frisbie set up a trading station on Danter Island, a lonely paradise four hundred miles Northeast of Samoa. Here he fell in love with a charming Polynesian girl and became a part of the life of the island; The History of Rome Hanks, by A. J. American.

Private Bill Laird of the Engineers is spending ten days in Italy in Camp Claiborne, La. at his home, 112 Avon road. Corporal Raymond Cabrey, Jr. of Windsor Ave., spent most of his fourteen day furlough from

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Lower Merion Police Win Pistol Match

Lower Merion Police won the 38 and 22 caliber pistol matches over the Narberth range scoring 1157 in the 38 for a new season's record and 152 in the 22.

Melvin Pierce with frames of 99, 98 and 94 posted 291 to top the 38 caliber team; John Comiskey and Brady Uzz scored 289 while Frank Flynn had a 288.

James Mayerschoff was high for Holmesburg with 288 and Warren Nenner had 282. Broomall Sportsmen furnished the two top scores of the day. Jim Chapman posted 294, while Alice Matthews rolled up 293.

Ask Voters' Ideas On Moving Polls

Residents of Narberth's third voting district were asked this week to express their opinion on a proposal to move the district's polling place to the gymnasium of the Baptist Church of the Evangel.

The church is at Elmwood and Narberth Aves., and the entrance to the gymnasium is from Elmwood Ave.

At present the polling place is in the Scout House at Elmwood and Essex Aves.

All voters of the district were sent a ballot on which to express their opinion. When filled out, the ballots should be deposited in a box at the cigar counter in Davis' store. Deadline for balloting is 5 P. M., August 16.

The balloting will be limited to registered voters. The letter to the voters of the district is signed by Elizabeth L. Williams, acting judge of elections; Robert M. Cameron, Republican committeeman, and Kenneth L. M. Pray, Democratic committeeman.

Unless the change is opposed by a substantial number of electors of the district, the three signing the letter plan to circulate a petition. Signatures of ten registered voters is sufficient to bring the matter before the Montgomery County Board of Elections. The Board of Elections will then fix a date for a public hearing and announce a list of pros and cons.

The present polling place known as the Scout House, is poor ventilation is heated by kerosene stoves which give off obnoxious odors, has no toilet facilities and is inadequate in space to care efficiently for any number of voters in a rush hour.

It is pointed out that the structure is conveniently located in relation to the station and therefore readily accessible to persons going to and from the station. The building is owned by the State Banking Department, and conceivably might be sold at any time, thereby obliging the district to get a new polling place.

Church Gymnasium: The gymnasium of the Baptist Church would provide roomier facilities for the polls and its use should tend to speed up voting at rush hours. Heating, ventilation, light and toilet facilities would be greatly superior. While not quite so near the station as the Scout House, the church gymnasium is less than a block from the present polls and should not work a hardship on any voters. Permission for use of the gymnasium must be given by the Board of Trustees and the membership of the Baptist Church of the Evangel.

Weekly Health Report

Six cases of contagious disease were reported in Lower Merion Township for the week ending July 28 as follows: Chicken pox, two; mumps, three; scarlet fever, one. This makes a total of 55 contagious cases reported for the year.

Relief Payments High

State Treasurer G. Harold Wagner reported that direct relief payments made to needy residents of Montgomery County during the week ended July 28, 1944 show an increase of \$6.00 over those of the previous week.

EDITORIAL

RUMOR MONGERS FAN THE FLAMES OF RACIAL PREJUDICE

Every Main Liner can do his share in keeping the Philadelphia transit strike within bounds. He can make a contribution by keeping his lips buttoned up and passing by opportunities to add an inflammable word to a wildcat strike that has asked racial discrimination as its terms of settlement.

A study of the country's race disturbances reveals that deliberate acts or concrete facts are seldom the sparks that incite fights and riots. It is the thoughtless remark, the unfounded rumor and the small-time gossip mongers who start fists flying and guns crackling.

It is such a story as we ran into yesterday when checking a rumor there had been a race riot in Bryn Mawr on Monday night. Since that time the story has been floating around with weaker minds embellishing it enroute. Part of the story came from two Lower Merion cops who were indulging in half-truths and encouraging less responsible men to let their minds run wild.

A check with Lower Merion police officials shows there was no race riot in Bryn Mawr on Monday or any other night. What happened was a fist fight between two boys who, according to police records, have been swapping punches for several months. Does this make a race riot even though the boys sprang from different racial stock?

Lower Merion has one black Ku Klux Klan mark on its township history. At that time several of the township's police force were involved—and involved not in keeping the peace but in abetting and inciting to riot. Now is the time to take steps to see that history does not repeat itself.

Let us have courage. Let us throw our strength with those who want to live up to the law of the land and against wildcat strikers who want to undermine human rights and the Nation's war effort.

PHILADELPHIA TRANSIT STRIKE HITS MAIN LINE AS HUNDREDS OF WORKERS COMMUTE FOR FIRST TIME ON PAOLI LOCALS FROM ARDMORE AND OVERBROOK

Extra Coaches Added to All Trains; Ticket Sales at Ardmore Jump From 400 to 1900 as Subway, Bus and Trolley Tie-Up in City Throws Suburban Commuter Load on Pennsylvania Railroad; Ration Boards Issue Emergency Gas Rations

Thousands of men and women who ordinarily travel to and from work on suburban buses and trolleys, making connections at the edge of the city with subways, buses or trolleys operated by the strike-paralyzed Philadelphia Transportation Company, headed for the Main Line stations of the Pennsylvania Railroad this week with Ardmore and Overbrook carrying the heaviest part of the extra load.

Ticket Sales Jump: At the Ardmore station on Wednesday afternoon, 1900 tickets were sold before noon, as compared with normal sales of 400.

When George Barton opened the ticket office window at 6.45 A. M., a line of men and women which extended to the corner of Lancaster Ave. and Station Rd. was waiting to buy tickets. He was alone in the ticket office until Samuel Hill, the station agent, and Dorothy Faber, another clerk, arrived at 7.30.

During the rush commuter-hours, the three had no time even to put their rolls of tickets into the dispensing machine. Time after time, they ran out of change, and when the Pennsylvania Company opened, they scoured the town for nickels, pennies and dimes. After each train left, the news stand agent brought over all the pennies and nickels he had collected for papers and cigarettes.

To accommodate the extra crowds, the station opened at 6 A. M. on Thursday morning. The Overbrook station, which had been closed for normal 100 to about 1,000, and the office was open from 6.30 A. M. until 10.50 P. M., instead of from 7.30 A. M. to 8 P. M. All those Paoli local trains which usually skip Overbrook made the stop.

Extra Cars Added: On all trains serving the Main Line, extra cars were added during the rush hours, with some cars carrying as many as 15 cars.

One extra coach was added to each train serving the Bala and Cynwyd stations, which are on a separate line of the Pennsylvania Railroad but that line, which goes to Conshohocken and Norristown, was not seriously affected by the city strike.

Other transportation lines throughout the suburbs, the New York City bus service and the Philadelphia and Western high-speed trolleys—reported a decrease in their travel loads generally. However, the Red Arrow Lines, which serve the main line of trolleys from 69th St. Terminal to Ardmore and of buses on the Ardmore-Darby route were doubled.

Complying with instructions from the Philadelphia office of the O.P.R. the ration boards in this area are issuing extra gas allotments to A book holders only for the duration of the strike and are keeping longer hours.

The Board, emergency rations may be obtained during the regular hours or between 7.30 and 9 P.M. Each A book holder will be issued a maximum of five gallons for each three day period of the strike.

The Bryn Mawr Board will also be open from 7.30 to 9 P. M. in addition to its regular hours and has also set a maximum of five gallons for each three day period of the strike.

The Board will remain open until 9 P. M. daily during the strike and will issue emergency rations to A book holders according to the need of the driver.

Autocar Co. Not Affected: The Autocar Company, of Ardmore, largest Main Line industry, was not affected by the transportation tie-up since the firm's policy is to employ men who live in the city. Out of the 3000 employees at the Ardmore plant, less than a dozen were delayed by the strike and none was kept from work.

Request Program Last at Dell

The closing Dell concert on Friday evening, August 4, will offer a request program under the leadership of Vladimir Golschmann, able conductor of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Headmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra and brilliant F minor Symphony, No. 4, of Tchaikovsky. Other numbers will be Debussy's "Afternoon of a Faun" and orchestral excerpts from Wagner's "Die Meistersinger" and "Tristan and Isolde." Also to be played in the U. S. Coast Guard March—"Semper Paratus"—in honor of the 154th Anniversary of this branch of the service.

Taking Indocctrination

Thomas J. Yborra, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Yborra, of 312 Chestnut Ave., Narberth, is receiving his initial naval indoctrination at the U. S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill.

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Fifty Grey Squirrels Moved To Zoo After Ruining Bryn Mawr Corn Crop: An appetite for corn-on-the-cob was the undoing of 50 grey squirrels. It resulted in their eviction from their home at Bryn Mawr and their forceful removal to the Philadelphia Zoo.

A few years ago the squirrel population on the estate of Lt. William Wikoff-Smith, Bryn Mawr, was small, and the little animals were so tame that they were encouraged, fed and regarded as pets. Each year, however, they increased in numbers to such an extent that their depredations on farm products put them in the class of pests. This year, row after row of corn was nibbled and destroyed, and it was finally decided that something would have to be done about the situation.

So traps were set and when 50 had been caught, special boxes were constructed in a compartment for each animal. They were brought to the Zoo over the weekend, the boxes were opened and streaks of grey fur dashed out and scattered all over the Zoological Garden.

The Zoo already had a large squirrel population, whose members have become expert pan-handlers—begging peanuts from visitors—but the gardeners were enough. Zoo officials thought to support another 50 or so.

There is no official suburban school league in football. The Suburban Conference decided not to meet this year.

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